

CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

CSA1 Bill Id:AB 471 Author:(Hart)

As Amended Ver:July 17, 2025

Majority vote

SUMMARY

Establishes reimbursement and per diem compensation standards for board members of certain single county air districts, and the Antelope Valley air district, permitting daily compensation up to \$200 per day and annual compensation up to \$7,200, and permits board approval of 5-10% annual increases going forward.

Senate Amendments

- 1) Prohibit reimbursement and compensation if the board member receives reimbursement for the same expenses or compensation for the same activity from another entity.
- 2) Require each district board that provides compensation pursuant to this bill to report to the Legislature, as specified.
- 3) Add the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District (encompassing the northern, desert portion of Los Angeles County).

COMMENTS

Existing law provides for the creation of a county air pollution control district in every county not included within other specified regional and multi-county districts. Existing law requires, under certain circumstances, the membership of the governing board of each county air pollution control district to include one or more members who are mayors, city council members, or both, and one or more members who are county supervisors. (Health and Safety Code 40100, *et seq.*)

Per diem compensation limits for certain air district board members were set in statute many years ago and, until last year, did not provide for inflation adjustment. For example, a \$100/day limit for the South Coast district was established in 1987. AB 2522 (Wendy Carrillo), Chapter 406, Statutes of 2024, increased per diem compensation limits for board members of the Bay Area, Sacramento, San Diego, South Coast, and unified (i.e., consisting of two or more contiguous counties) air districts, doubling daily compensation from \$100 per day to \$200 per day and increasing corresponding monthly and annual compensation limits.

This bill establishes per diem compensation with comparable limits for single county air districts that include non-supervisor board members. The bill permits the governing boards to approve limited increases in future years, based on inflation. The bill applies to air districts in the counties of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Placer, Butte, Northern Sonoma, Shasta, Eastern Kern, Amador, Lassen, and Siskiyou, as well as Antelope Valley in northern Los Angeles County.

These per diem payments come from local air district funds, so the bill is non-fiscal.

According to the Author

Assembly Bill 471 will help increase participation within local air district boards by providing equitable compensation to board members. Specifically, the bill will allow certain county air

districts to provide per diem compensation to board members, while setting compensation limits and prohibiting automatic future increases.

AB 471 will facilitate broader and more diverse participation on air district boards. Better financial incentives can attract a wider range of candidates from diverse backgrounds who may have been discouraged from serving due to the financial burden.

Arguments in Support

According to sponsor California Air Pollution Control Officers Association, state law is unclear as to the authority to provide per diem compensation to board members engaging in the official duties of specified county air districts, resulting in board members not being provided any compensation whatsoever. AB 471 addresses this inequity by providing explicit statutory authority for specified county air districts. The bill's reasonable compensation limits, CPI adjustments, and transparency requirements are the same as what was authorized for unified air districts in AB 2522. AB 471 has no state cost.

This bill will facilitate broader and more diverse participation on air district boards. Financial incentives can attract a more comprehensive array of candidates with more varied backgrounds for whom the economic impracticality of serving may have previously deterred them from doing so.

Arguments in Opposition

None received.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Non-fiscal.

VOTES:

ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 13-0-1

YES: Bryan, Alanis, Connolly, Davies, Flora, Garcia, Haney, Sanchez, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Zbur

ABS, ABST OR NV: Wicks

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-2-11

YES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO: DeMaio, Patterson

ABS, ABST OR NV: Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Chen, Gallagher, Haney, Hoover, Ortega, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Tangipa

SENATE FLOOR: 33-0-7

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney,

Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ABS, ABST OR NV: Alvarado-Gil, Cabaldon, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

UPDATED

VERSION: July 17, 2025

CONSULTANT: Lawrence Lingbloom / NAT. RES. / (916) 319-2092

FN: 0001565